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00862.022793

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
 : Examiner: Unassigned
 KAZUYUKI MASUMOTO, ET AL.)
 : Group Art Unit: 2853
 Application No.: 10/785,012)
 :
 Filed: February 25, 2004)
 :
 For: PRINTING APPARATUS,)
 CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR,)
 AND STORAGE MEDIUM) June 17, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

FOREIGN PATENTS:

	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
(1)	05-318845	Japan	December 3, 1993
(2)	1137649	China	December 11, 1996
(3)	1152747	China	June 25, 1997
(4)	0 949 804	Europe	October 13, 1999
(5)	1 119 177	Europe	July 25, 2001
(6)	1 087 607	Europe	March 28, 2001
(7)	0 860 980	Europe	August 26, 1998

REMARKS

Document Nos. 1 to 3 listed above and on the PTO-1449 were cited in an official communication from the Chinese Patent Office in connection with a corresponding Chinese patent application; Document Nos. 4 to 7 listed above and on the PTO-1449 were cited in an official communication from the European Patent Office in connection with a corresponding European patent application. Copies of each of the official communications (including an English translation of the Chinese office communication) indicating how those references were deemed material to the Chinese and European patent applications also are enclosed as English language statements of relevance for the Examiner's consideration. English translations of the Chinese and Japanese patent documents are not readily available to Applicants' attorney, but may be provided if required by the Examiner. In this regard, Chinese patent document CN '649 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,354,752, U.S. Patent No. 6,351,314 and U.S. Patent No. 6,570,664; Chinese patent document CN '747 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,052,207 and U.S. Patent No. 6,493,472. English abstracts for each of the Chinese and Japanese patent documents also are enclosed as English language statements of relevance for the Examiner's consideration.

FEE STATEMENT

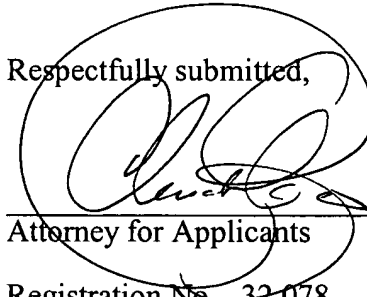
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or prior to the mailing of an initial official action. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is required. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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CPWgmc

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FORM PTO 449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) June 17, 2004			ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022793		APPLICATION NO. 10/785,012		
			APPLICANT KAZUYUKI MASUMOTO, ET AL.				
			FILING DATE February 25, 2004		GROUP 2853		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,293,481	03/1994	MITA, ET AL.	395	163	
		6,354,752	03/2002	NAKAGIRI	400	76	
		6,351,314	02/2002	NAKAGIRI	358	1.11	
		6,570,664	05/2003	NAKAGIRI	358	1.11	
		6,052,207	04/2000	TAKAGI, ET AL.	358	452	
		6,493,472	12/2002	TAKAGI, ET AL.	382	317	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		05-318845	12/1993	JAPAN			ABSTRACT
		1137649	12/1996	CHINA			ABSTRACT
		1152747	06/1997	CHINA			ABSTRACT
		0 949 804	10/1999	EUROPE			
		1 119 177	07/2001	EUROPE			
		1 087 607	03/2001	EUROPE			
		0 860 980	08/1998	EUROPE			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		European Search Report dated April 28, 2004 (Ref. No. P202-0293EP/02022448.1-1241-).					
		Chinese Official Action dated March 19, 2004 (Appln. No. 02143801.3).					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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